

In the Claims:

Claims 1-43 (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) A system for coating containers, comprising an apparatus for coating an area of damaged protective coating on a container, the apparatus including a heater and a carrier unit; a first conveyor having a plurality of platforms, wherein each platform is selectively actuatable to position a container at a first station proximate the heater for heating the area of damaged protective coating on the container; and a second conveyor having a plurality of platforms and being configured for receiving containers from the first conveyor, wherein each platform is selectively actuatable to position a container at a second station proximate the carrier unit for depositing protective coating material attached to the carrier unit onto the area of damaged protective coating on the container that was heated at the first station.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) A system for coating containers, comprising an apparatus for coating an area of damaged protective coating on a container, the apparatus including a carrier unit; a rotary manipulator; at least one heating unit separate of and spaced from the apparatus for coating, the at least one heating unit being positioned adjacent the rotary manipulator; a first conveyor, for supplying containers to the rotary manipulator; wherein the rotary manipulator rotates the containers to a position proximate the apparatus for coating an area of damaged protective coating on a container, and to a position proximate the at least one heating unit, and

wherein the apparatus is configured to rotate the carrier unit to a first station proximate to the at least one heating unit for heating the carrier unit prior to the carrier unit receiving a coating material, to a second station for the carrier unit to receive the coating material, and to a third station for the carrier unit to coat an area of damaged protective coating on a container; and
a second conveyor for removing containers from the rotary manipulator.

48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A system for coating containers, comprising an apparatus for coating a limited area on a container, the apparatus including a heater and a carrier unit;

a first conveyor having a plurality of platforms, wherein each platform is selectively actuatable to position a container at a first station proximate the heater for heating the limited area on the container; and

a second conveyor having a plurality of platforms and being configured for receiving containers from the first conveyor, wherein each platform is selectively actuatable to position a container at a second station proximate the carrier unit for depositing protective coating material attached to the carrier unit onto the limited area on the container that was heated at the first station.